

REMARKS

Claims 1 – 31 remain in the application. Claims 27 – 31 have been allowed. Claims 1, 16, 17 and 25 stand rejected. Claims 2 – 15, 18 – 24 and 26 have been found to encompass patentable subject matter but are objected to for depending from rejected base claims. The rejection of the claims is respectfully traversed.

The drawings are objected to for not specifically showing “a plurality of functional units distributed on said chip” as recited in claim 17 and “a plurality of noise compensation circuits, each gating a global clock to a respective one of said units” as recited in claim 25. Accordingly, the Examiner required corrected drawing sheets. Responsive thereto, Figure 1 is amended to Figure 1A and new Figures 1B – C are offered with corresponding amendments to the specification. Figures 1B – C are supported by the specification as filed and by U.S. Application Serial No. 10/712,925 entitled “BUILT IN SELF TEST FOR MEASURING TOTAL TIMING UNCERTAINTY IN A DIGITAL DATA PATH” to Robert L. Franch et al., which was incorporated by reference into the present application. No new matter is added by the amendment to the drawings or the specification.

Claims 1, 16 and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) and claim 25 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 5,561,389 to Duley. Claims 1, 16 and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) and claim 25 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 6,621,311 to Jeon. Claim 1, as amended, recites “selectively, synchronously gating off/forcing on a chip clock to chip circuits.” Claim 17 is similarly amended to recite “selectively, synchronously gating a chip clock to at least one chip circuit in at least one chip unit.” Synchronously gating a chip clock neither shown nor suggested by either of Duley or Jeon or any reference of record. Accordingly amended claims 1 and 17 are patentable over Duley and/or Jeon alone or in combination with any reference of record.

Amendment
January 13, 2005

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AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

The attached sheets of drawings includes changes to Figure 1, including two (2) replacement sheets replacing the first formal drawing sheet. In particular, Figure 1 is re-labeled Figure 1A in the first replacement sheet and, as required by the Examiner, Figures 1B – C are added in the second replacement sheet.

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Furthermore, since dependent claims include all of the differences with the reference as the claims from which they depend, claims 16, 17 and 25 are not taught or suggested by either of Duley or Jeon or any reference of record. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1, 16, 17 and 25 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b), (e) and 103(a) over Duley or Jeon is respectfully solicited.

The applicant has considered the other references cited but not relied upon and finds them to be no more relevant than the references relied upon for the rejection.

The applicant thanks the Examiner for efforts, both past and present, in examining the application. Believing the application to be in condition for allowance for the amendment to the claims and for the reasons set forth above, the applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the objection to the drawings and claims, reconsider and withdraw the rejection of claims 1, 16, 17 and 25 under 35 U.S.C. §§102(b), (e) and 103(a) and allow the application to issue.

Should the Examiner believe anything further may be required, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned attorney at the local telephone number listed below for a telephonic or personal interview to discuss any other changes.

Please charge any deficiencies in fees and credit any overpayment of fees to IBM Corporation Deposit Account No. 50-0510 and advise us accordingly.

Respectfully Submitted,

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(Date)



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APPENDIX
Replacement Drawings